

Department of State

619.805-2

(b) The contracting activity shall use the Central Contractor Registration database (<http://www.ccr.gov>) to establish that the selected 8(a) firm is a current program participant.

(c) Once an 8(a) contractor has been identified, the agency contracting officer shall establish the price with the selected 8(a) contractor.

(d) The contracting officer shall issue the purchase order or contract directly to the 8(a) firm in accordance with the provisions of FAR part 13 and DOSAR part 613. The contracting officer shall insert FAR clause 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting, and DOSAR clause 652.219-71, Section 8(a) Direct Award, in all purchase orders and contracts awarded under this subsection. The contracting officer's title shall include the contracting activity, as follows: Contracting Officer for the Department of State [insert contracting activity]. In addition, in accordance with the MOU, A/SDBU staff who have been issued limited contracting officer warrants for this purpose, shall sign the purchase order or contract as a third party.

(e) The contracting officer shall forward to the SBA District Office serving the 8(a) firm a copy of the purchase order or contract within five days after the order is issued.

[64 FR 43624, Aug. 11, 1999, as amended at 71 FR 34839, June 16, 2006]

619.804 Evaluation, offering, and acceptance.

619.804-2 Agency offering.

(a) When applicable, this notification shall identify that the offering is in accordance with the MOU identified in 619.800.

619.804-3 SBA acceptance.

619.804-3-70 SBA acceptance under MOUs for acquisitions exceeding \$100,000.

(a) The SBA's decision whether to accept the requirement shall be transmitted to the contracting agency in writing within five working days of receipt of the offer.

(b) The SBA may request, and the contracting agency may grant, an extension beyond the five-day limit.

(c) SBA's acceptance letter should be faxed or e-mailed to the offering contracting agency.

(d) If the offering contracting agency has not received an acceptance or rejection of the offering from SBA within five days of SBA's receipt of the offering letter, the contracting agency may assume that the requirement has been accepted and proceed with the acquisition.

(e) The contents of the acceptance letter shall be limited to the eligibility of the recommended 8(a) contractor.

619.805 Competitive 8(a).

619.805-2 Procedures.

(a) 8(a) acquisitions may also be conducted using simplified acquisition procedures (see FAR part 13). The award process is significantly streamlined where an MOU is in place.

(2) In accordance with a waiver approved by SBA, contract actions for services exceeding \$3 million and supplies exceeding \$5 million that supplement the security of U.S. diplomatic posts and protect the lives of Department personnel may be awarded non-competitively. Contracting officers do not need to compete 8(a) acquisitions as stated when those acquisitions exceed the 8(a) competition thresholds. This waiver is in effect for the duration of the national state of emergency as declared by the President of the United States. If a contracting officer has a question as to whether a particular action falls under this waiver, the contracting officer should contact A/SDBU.

(c)(3) For requirements exceeding \$100,000 processed under the MOU cited in 619.800, the contracting officer shall submit the name, address, and telephone number of the low offeror (in sealed bid acquisitions) or the apparent successful offeror (in negotiated acquisitions) to the SBA Business Opportunity Specialist at the field office servicing the identified 8(a) firm. The SBA shall determine the eligibility of the firm(s) and advise the contracting officer within two working days of the

receipt of the request. If the firm is determined to be ineligible, the contracting officer shall submit information on the next low offeror or next apparent successful offeror, as applicable, to the cognizant SBA field office.

[64 FR 43624, Aug. 11, 1999, as amended at 69 FR 19335, Apr. 13, 2004]

619.806 Pricing the 8(a) contract.

(a) When required by FAR subpart 15.4, the contracting officer shall obtain certified cost or pricing data directly from the 8(a) contractor if the contract is being awarded under the MOU cited in 619.800.

619.808 Contract negotiation.

619.808-1 Sole source.

(a) If the acquisition is conducted under an MOU cited in 619.800, the 8(a) contractor is responsible for negotiating with the agency within the time established by the agency. If the 8(a) contractor does not negotiate within the established time and the agency cannot allow additional time, the agency may, after notification and approval by SBA, proceed with the acquisition from other sources.

(b) If the acquisition is conducted under an MOU cited in 619.800, the agency is delegated the authority to negotiate directly with the 8(a) participant; however, if requested by the 8(a) participant, the SBA may participate in the negotiations.

619.810 SBA appeals.

(d) The Procurement Executive is the agency head for the purposes of FAR 19.812(d).

619.811 Preparing the contracts.

619.811-1 Sole source.

(d) If the award is to be made under an MOU cited in 619.800, the contract to be awarded by the contracting activity to the 8(a) firm shall be prepared in accordance with the contracting activity's normal procedures, given contract type and dollar amount, that the contracting activity would use for a similar, non-8(a) acquisition, except for the following:

(1) The award form shall cite 41 U.S.C. 253(c)(5) or 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(5), as

appropriate, and 15 U.S.C. 637(a) as the authority for use of other than full and open competition.

(2) The contracting officer shall insert FAR 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting, and DOSAR 652.219-71, Section 8(a) Direct Awards.

(3) For acquisitions exceeding \$100,000, the contracting activity shall include SBA's requirement number on the award document.

(4) A single award document shall be used between the agency and the 8(a) contractor, *i.e.*, an SBA signature will not be required. The title of the agency contracting officer shall include the contracting activity, as follows: Contracting Officer for the Department of State [insert contracting activity]. In addition, in accordance with the MOU, A/SDBU staff who have been issued limited contracting officer warrants for this purpose shall sign the contract as a third party. The 8(a) contractor's signature shall be placed on the award document as the prime contractor. The 8(a) contractor's name and address shall be placed in the "Awarded to" or "Contractor name" block on the appropriate form.

619.811-2 Competitive.

(a) If the award is made under the delegation of 8(a) contracting authority, competitive contracts for 8(a) firms shall be prepared in accordance with the same standards as 8(a) sole source contracts. See 619.811-1.

(b) If the acquisition is conducted under the MOU cited in 619.800, the process for obtaining signatures shall be as specified in 619.811-1(d)(4).

619.811-3 Contract clauses.

(d)(3) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at FAR 52.219-18, Notification of Competition Limited to Eligible 8(a) Concerns, (Deviation), in competitive solicitations and contracts exceeding \$100,000 when the acquisition is processed under the MOU cited in 619.800.

(f) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at FAR 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting, and DOSAR 652.219-71, Section 8(a) Direct Awards, in all solicitations and contracts that are processed under the MOU cited at 619.800. The clauses at FAR 52.219-11,